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COUNTRY Peru

DATE DISTR. 16 August 1948

SUBJECT Support for New Political Party Sponsored by Bustamante

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1. The Partido Social Republicano is the only organized political group in Peru which, as of 22 July, was known to have joined the new political party announced by President Bustamante in his radio speech of 28 June 1948. The Movimiento Civico Independiente (MCI) is divided on the course it should follow. In Lima, this party has taken no action, but in the provinces, MCI groups are believed to support the President.
2. At the present time, support for the new party has come primarily from independent individuals, and from scattered groups. Few of the commercial houses have yet announced support for the President's party, and none of the banks. One of the officials of the Banco de Credito stated that in Peru, all banks support all political parties but that none yet supports the new party.

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